

REFERENCE TITLE: cities; political subdivisions; election dates

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-ninth Legislature
First Regular Session
2009

HB 2385

Introduced by
Representatives Ableser: Schapira

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 16-204, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO ELECTION DATES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 16-204, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 16-204. Declaration of statewide concern; consolidated election
5 dates

6 A. While the legislature recognizes that the method of conducting
7 elections by political subdivisions, including charter counties and cities,
8 may be a matter of local concern, the legislature finds and determines that
9 for the purposes of increasing voter participation and for decreasing the
10 costs to the taxpayers it is a matter of statewide concern that all elections
11 in this state be conducted on a limited number of days and, therefore, the
12 legislature finds and declares that the holding of all elections on certain
13 specific consolidated days is a matter of statewide concern.

14 B. Notwithstanding any other law or any charter or ordinance of any
15 county, city or town to the contrary, an election held for or on behalf of a
16 county, city or town, a school district, a community college district or
17 special districts organized pursuant to title 48, chapters 5, 6, 8, 10, 13
18 through 16 and 33 may only be held on the following dates:

19 ~~1. Except for regular elections for candidates in a city or town with
20 a population of one hundred seventy-five thousand or more persons, all
21 elections, including recall elections and special elections to fill
22 vacancies, shall be held on:~~

- 23 ~~(a) 1. The second Tuesday in March.
(b) 2. The third Tuesday in May.~~

24 ~~(c) 3. The ninth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first
25 Monday in November.~~

- 26 ~~(d) 4. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.~~

27 ~~Notwithstanding any other law, an election must be held on this date for the
28 approval of an obligation or other authorization requiring or authorizing the
29 assessment of secondary property taxes by a county, city, town, school
30 district, community college district or special taxing district, except as
31 provided by title 48.~~

32 ~~2. For regular elections that are only for candidates in a city or
33 town with a population of one hundred seventy five thousand or more persons
34 and not including recall elections and special elections to fill vacancies in
35 those cities or towns, elections shall be held on:~~

36 ~~(a) The ninth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first Monday
37 in November.~~

- 38 ~~(b) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.~~

39 C. For any city or town, including a charter city, that holds its
40 regularly scheduled candidate elections in even-numbered years pursuant to
41 subsection B, paragraph ~~2~~ 3 OR 4, the term of office for a member of the
42 city council or for the office of mayor begins on or after the second Tuesday
43 in January in the year following the election.

1 D. This section does not apply to an election regarding a county or
2 city charter committee or county or city charter proposal that is conducted
3 pursuant to article XIII, section 2 or 3 or article XII, section 5,
4 Constitution of Arizona.

5 Sec. 2. Conforming legislation

6 The legislative council staff shall prepare proposed legislation
7 conforming the Arizona Revised Statutes to the provisions of this act for
8 consideration in the forty-ninth legislature, second regular session.